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asymmetrically drying the paper web in its thickness direction extending between the top and bottom sides of the paper web to a solids content at which curl-inducing stresses are formed in the paper web by passing the paper web through a plurality of top-felted single-tier normal dryer groups, each of said plurality of normal dryer groups including a single tier of dryer cylinders, a plurality of guide rolls disposed below and between said dryer cylinders, and a single wire transporting said web over the dryer cylinders and beneath the guide rolls so that only the bottom side of said web engages said dryer cylinders; and

subsequently applying sufficient heat and moisture to the asymmetrically dried paper web to relax said stresses in the fiber mesh of the paper web, to thereby control curling of the web.

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--30. The method claim 26, wherein said heat and moisture are applied across the entire width of the paper web.

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--31. The method of claim 26, wherein said heat and moisture are applied to said web immediately downstream of the location where said stresses are formed.

--33. The method of claim 26, wherein said heat and moisture are applied to the side of the web not engaging said dryer cylinders.

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--34. A paper machine comprising:

a dryer for asymmetrically drying a paper web in its thickness direction extending between the top and bottom sides of the paper web to a solids content at which curl-

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inducing stresses are formed in the paper web, said dryer including a plurality of top-felted single-tier normal dryer groups, each of said plurality of normal dryer groups including a single tier of dryer cylinders, a plurality of guide rolls disposed below and between said dryer cylinders, and a single wire transporting said web over the dryer cylinders and beneath the guide rolls so that only the bottom side of said web engages said dryer cylinders; and

a device for applying heat and moisture to the asymmetrically dried paper web for relaxing said stresses to thereby control curling of the web. --

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--36. The paper machine of claim 34, wherein said device for applying heat and moisture is disposed immediately downstream of said plurality of normal dryer groups. --

--37. The paper machine of claim 34, wherein said device for applying heat and moisture extends across the entire width of the paper web. --

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--40. The paper machine of claim 34, wherein said device for applying heat and moisture includes a steam box. --

--41. The paper machine of claim 34, wherein said heat and moisture are applied to the side of the web not engaging said dryer cylinders. --

REMARKS

The second Office Action of February 17, 1999 and the Supplemental Office Action of March 8, 1999 have been reviewed and carefully considered.